

15. (Thrice Amended) A method of identifying an AGE-1 modulatory compound that is capable of decreasing the expression of an AGE-1 gene, said method comprising the steps of:

- (a) providing a nematode cell expressing its endogenous AGE-1 DNA,
- (b) contacting said nematode cell with a candidate compound; and
- (c) measuring AGE-1 gene expression in said nematode cell, a decrease in AGE-1 gene expression in said nematode cell following contact with said candidate compound, compared to AGE-1 gene expression in a nematode cell that is not contacted with said candidate compound, identifying said candidate compound as a compound that is capable of decreasing AGE-1 gene expression.

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16. (Four Times Amended) A method of identifying an AGE-1 modulatory compound that is capable of decreasing AGE-1 PI 3-kinase activity, said method comprising the steps of:

- (a) providing a cell expressing an AGE-1 polypeptide of claim 8;
- (b) contacting the cell with a candidate compound; and
- (c) measuring the PI 3-kinase activity of said cell, a decrease in AGE-1 PI 3-kinase activity of said cell following contact with the candidate compound, compared to AGE-1 PI 3-kinase activity in a cell in the absence of said candidate compound, identifying said candidate compound as a compound that is capable of decreasing AGE-1 PI 3-kinase activity.